



Practicing Texas Politics

By Lyle Brown, Joyce A. Langenegger, Sonia R. Garcia, Ted Lewis, Robert E. Biles

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Editorial Review

Review

"... The major strength of the Brown text is its comprehensive coverage of the fundamentals of Texas politics--in particular its coverage of major institutions and description and analysis of local government. Second, it reads like a political science text without being too overwhelmed by discipline jargon. Third, there are enough contemporary examples of events and issues that can be used to guide students in relating their own experiences to the broader issue of Texas politics." - Franklin Jones, Texas Southern University

"PRACTICING TEXAS POLITICS is the most comprehensive, authoritative, and current of all the Texas government and politics textbooks available. It engages student interest through a variety of stimuli, including interesting and often ironic political cartoons, feature boxes filled with intriguing facts about Texas, comparisons of Texas with the other states, 'learning check' questions at the end of major sections, 'Point/Counterpoint' boxes that spell out opposing arguments on current political issues, colorful maps and photographs, and an ample marginal glossary." - James A. Norris, Texas A&M International University

About the Author

Lyle C. Brown, Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin, is Professor Emeritus at Baylor University. Other academic experience includes teaching at Mexico City College (now University of the Americas), Texas College of Arts & Industries (now Texas A&M University-Kingsville), and Wayland Baptist College (now Wayland Baptist University). Lyle served as president of the Southwest Council of Latin American Studies. He is co-editor of RELIGION IN LATIN AMERICAN LIFE AND LITERATURE and author or co-author of articles in professional journals, anthologies, and textbooks. His involvement in Texas politics includes participation in precinct, county, and state conventions.

Joyce Langenegger teaches government at Blinn College-Bryan and is the Director of Professional Development. She received her M.A. and J.D. from Baylor University and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Fielding Graduate University. She was named the Blinn College-Bryan Academic Faculty Member of the Year for 2014. She has been named to WHO'S WHO AMONG AMERICA'S TEACHERS three times and received a NISOD Award for Teaching Excellence and a "Most Valuable Player" award from San Jacinto College for her work there as a professor and an administrator. Joyce is a frequent workshop presenter on innovative teaching strategies. She practiced law for a number of years and has been involved with politics at the local and state level.

Sonia Garcia, Ph.D., University of California, Santa Barbara, is Chair of the Political Science Department at St. Mary's University. She has published articles on Latina politics and is a co-author of MEXICAN AMERICANS & THE LAW: EL PUEBLO UNIDO JAMÁS SERÁ VENCIDO (2004). Sonia also is the lead author of POLITICAS: LATINA PUBLIC OFFICIALS IN TEXAS (2007), which examines the first Mexican-American women elected to public office in Texas from various levels of offices.

Ted A. Lewis is Dean of Instruction at Lone Star College - CyFair and continues to teach Texas government at the college level. He earned his MS from the University of North Texas in Denton and is a doctoral student at the University of Texas at Austin. Ted has conducted workshops on Texas election procedure for the Texas Secretary of State and has served as a county party chairperson, on state political party executive committees, and on statewide candidate campaign advisory committees. Ted is listed in both WHO'S WHO IN AMERICAN POLITICS and WHO'S WHO AMONG AMERICA'S TEACHERS.

Robert E. Biles, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, is Professor and former Chair of Political Science at Sam Houston State University. He has published several books and numerous scholarly articles. Bob has served as a professional staff member for the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, a member of the local school board, county political party chair, county election supervisor, state board member of a citizen's lobbying group, a member of advisory committees to the Texas Commissioner of Higher Education and the Texas State Board for Educator Certification, and secretary and president of the Women's Caucus of the Southwestern Social Science Association. He has received four Fulbright grants to teach and do research in Latin America. He received his university's top award for research, his college's award for teaching, and the first university Faculty Senate award for administration.

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